The National Horticulture Mission is implemented to provide holistic growth of agriculture sector covering fruits, vegetables, roots and tuber crops mushrooms, spices, flowers, aromatic plants and plantation crops by adopting area based differentiated strategies which includes research, technology promotion, extension, post harvest management, processing and marketing, in consonance with comparative advantage of the State/region and its diverse agro-climatic feature. Under the scheme guidelines, at the district level, Panchayat members and the District Planning Committee will be involved in implementing the programme depending on their expertise and available infrastructure.

(b) and (c) There is no proposal to merge all the above schemes into one to be entrusted to the Panchayati Raj at present. Each scheme is designed to serve its specific objective, but it is expected that the centrality of the Panchayats in each of such schemes is progressively ensured.

(d) Assigning the functions with regard to planning, implementation and monitoring of Centrally Sponsored Schemes to Panchayats is a continuous process. It has been the endeavor of the Government to assign centrality to Panchayats in the planning, implementation and monitoring of developmental programmes/schemes. Activity Mapping Matrices delineating functions to be assigned to each tier of Panchayats have been drawn for each of the above mentioned schemes by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj. Respective line Ministries have been requested to issue necessary guidelines to the States to follow these activity mappings in the implementation of the programmes/schemes.

Filling of tribal quota backlogs

716. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:
SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been recommended to Government to fill tribal quota backlogs through campus placement drives, employment fairs in tribal areas, etc. apart from special recruitment drives by Government agencies;

(b) if so, whether campus placement drives, employment fairs, etc. are being organized for this purpose; and

(c) whether Government would also ensure that standards of recruitment are not diluted or procedures compromised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) No. Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Commercialisation and corruption in country

†717. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA:
SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that commercialisation and corruption has increased comparatively in the country in the past two years;

(b) if so, whether all methods of checking corruption are not working properly;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.